

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Legislation Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

STAT

FROM:

Charles E. Allen
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism and
Narcotics

SUBJECT:

Request for Comments: Draft State Views Letter on
H. Res. 208 "International Terrorism Control Treaty"

1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject letter. I generally agree with its conclusion: a multilateral international agreement would not produce much in the way of practical results for counterterrorism. I would not dismiss the value of the treaty on that basis, however. It could serve as a highly visible, moral demonstration of international solidarity against terrorism.

2. As for the letter's reference to an "integrated intelligence operation", this is unacceptable in treaty form because of the need of any signatory states to protect sources and methods. Arguing that point in the letter, however, may only serve to draw attention to it. I recommend we first determine how far this proposal is going before we expend our time and political capital arguing points that may be academic.



Charles E. Allen